# ARTICLES

TO BE

Miniſtred, Enquired of, and Anſwered,

CONCERNING

## Matters Eccleſiaſtical:

IN THE

# VISITATION

OF

*JOHN FEILDING,*

Arch-Deacon of the Arch-Deaconry

OF

# DORSET.

1683:

*LONDON,* Printed for *Obadiah Blakegrave.* 1683.

## *The Church-wardens Oath.*

YOUR Oath is, That you the *Church-wardens* for your parts, and you the *Sides-men* for your parts, ſhall well and faithfully execute your ſeveral Offices for your Pariſh (ſo long as you ſhall continue in your Offices) according to the Uſe and Cuſtom there, and the Law in that behalf; and alſo duely and truly preſent ſuch Crimes and Offences puniſhable by the Laws Eccleſiaſtical of this Land, which ſhall come to your knowledge or notice; all Favour and Affection, Hatred and Malice, or ſiniſter Reſpect ſet apart, ſo help you God, *&c.*

*And We deliver you theſe Articles for your Directions.*

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# Matters Eccleſiaſtical:

In the VISITATION of

*IOHN FEILDING,*

Arch-Deacon of the Arch-Deaconry of *DORSET*, 1683.

## Concerning the Kings Majeſties Authority in Cauſes Eccleſiaſtical.

HAVE You any in your Pariſh that oppoſe, or gainſay any part of his Majeſties Supremacy in all Cauſes Eccleſiaſtical, as ſet forth in the ſecond Canon?

## Articles of the Church of England.

1. HAVE you any in your Parish that affirm, that the Church of England, as now by Law established, is not a True and Apostolical Church; and that it doth not teach and maintain the Doctrine of the Apostles, as set down in the 3 Canon?

2. HAVE you any in your Parish that oppugn or speaketh against the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of England, or the lawful use of them, as contrary to the 6 Canon? You shall present their Names.

3. HAVE you any in your Parish that impugn the Government of the Church of England, under the Kings Most Excellent Majesty, by Archbishops and Bishops, as at present established, and that it is contrary to the Word of God, as contrary to the 7 Canon?

4. HAVE you any in your Parish that affirm, That the Book of Common Prayer, as now by Law is established, containeth in it any thing that is Superstitious, and contrary to the Word of God, and therefore that Godly Men ought not to approve and subscribe to the same, contrary to the 4 Canon? You shall present their Names.

5. WHETHER have you any in your Parish that Separate from the Church of England, and the Publick Worship thereof, and that come not to Church until Divine Service be ended, and the Psalm or Sermon do begin, as contrary to the 9 and 12 Canons?

6. IS there any in your Parish that doth maintain

tain such unlicensed Preachers that refuse to subscribe the Forms of Gods Worship prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer, contrary to the 10 Canon? And whether have you any in your Parish that of late have followed any strange Preacher Unlicensed, Suspended, or Schismatical, from Parish to Parish? Present their Names, and the Places to which they go and resort.

## Of Divine Service.

1. IS the present Form of Divine Service used by your Minister upon Sundays and Holidays? And are the Lords days and other Holydays kept in your Parish, according to the Orders of the Church of England prescribed in that behalf, by frequenting the Publick Worship, as is injoyned in the 13 and 14 Canons?

2. WHETHER is there any Man or Woman that useth not due reverence in the Church in time of Divine Service and Sermon? And whether is there any Man that covereth his head in the time of Divine Service, except for some Infirmity? And, whether do all persons present in the Church or Chappel, kneel reverently upon their Knees when the General Confession, Litany, and Prayers are read, and stand up at the saying of the Creed, according to the 18 Canon?

3. IS there any in your Parish that lurk or tipple in Taverns, Alehouses, or that stand idle and loiter in the Church-yard in time of Divine Service, as forbidden in the 19 Canon?

Of

## Of the Sacraments.

1. IS the Sacrament of the Lords Supper duely administred in your Parish, at the least thrice a year, Easter being one? And doth the Minister give warning thereof at Morning Prayer the Sunday before such time? And do the Church-wardens provide a sufficient quantity of Bread and Wine for the same, as by the 20, 21, 22 Canons is required?

2. HAVE you in your Church a convenient Table, with a fine Linnen Cloth to cover the same in time of Administration of the Lords Supper, as Cannon the second? And is the Wine brought to the table in a clean Flagon or Pot, of Pewter or purer Metal, as is required in the said Canon?

3. DOTH your Minister admit any notorious Offenders, or Schismaticks, or any Excommunicate persons, for such as live in open contention with their Neighbours, to the Sacrament of the Lords Supper, contrary to the 26 and 27 Canons? Or, doth any refuse to come to the Sacrament, contrary to the 57 Canon?

4. IS the Sacrament of Baptism duly administred in your Church or Chappel, according to the form thereof, and the direction of the Book of Common Prayers? And is there a Font of Stone placed at the lower end of the Church for that purpose, as required in the 81 Canon?

5. HAVE you any in your Parish that refuse to bring their Children to be Baptized by the Minister,

ster, according to the Book of Common Prayer? Declare their Names, and how long they have done so.

6. WHETHER doth your Minister refuse to sign the Children with the Sign of the Cross, when they are Baptised, according to the Book of Common Prayer, as is required by the 30 Canon? And doth he Christen and Bury as is required by the 68 and 69 Canons?

## Of Ministers.

1. DOTH your Minister, when he readeth publick Prayers, or administreth the Sacraments, wear a comely Surplice with Sleeves, as is required by the 58 Canon?

2. DOTH your Minister visit the Sick, as is required by the 67 Canon?

3. DOTH your Minister use the form of Thanksgiving for Women after Child-birth? And whether have any Married Wives refused to come to Church, according to the Book of Common Prayer, to give God Thanks after Child-birth, in such usual and decent manner as hath been anciently accustomed? If any be faulty, you shall present their Names.

4. DOTH your Minister catechise the Youth and more ignorant persons of the Parish, in the Creed, and Lords Prayer, and the Ten Commandments, as is required in the 59 Canon?

5. DOTH your Minister pray for King Charles the Second, Queen Catharine, and the rest of the Royal Family, as required by the 55 Canon?

6. HATH

6. HATH your Minister more Benefices than one with Cure, and upon which doth he reside? And hath he a sufficient and able Curate, to teach and instruct the People, as is required in the 41 Canon?

7. WHETHER doth your Parson, Vicar, or Curate frequent Taverns and Alehouses, or is given to Drunkenness, Dicing, Carding, or other unlawful Games, as are forbidden by the 75 Canon?

## Of the Church and Church yard.

1. WHETHER have you the Bible provided of the New Translation, and of the large Volume, and the Book of Common Prayers, as now by Law is established, as is in the 8 Canon required?

2. WHETHER have you a convenient Seat for your Minister to read Divine Service, and a decent Pulpit set up in a convenient Place? Have you also a decent large Surplice? Have you also a fair Cup of Gold, Silver, or other purer Metal, and a Cover agreeable to the same; and all other necessary things for the Celebration of Divine Service, and Administration of the Sacraments, as the 83 Canon requireth?

3. WHETHER is your Church or Chappel, with the Chancel thereof, and Church-yard, kept in good Reparation, and in a decent and comely fashion, as well within as without, as becometh the House of God, as is required in the 85 Canon?

4. IS your Parsonage or Vicarage-House kept in good Reparations, and all Houses thereunto belonging?

5. HAVE

5. HAVE you in your Parish a Register-book provided, wherein may be written the day and year of every Christening, Wedding, and Burial, as is required in the 70 Canon?

Of School Masters.

HAVE you any Man that teacheth School either in publick or private House, not having Licence from the Bishop of the Diocels or his Ordinary, as required in the 77 Canon? And does the Licensed School-master bring his Scholars to hear Sermons, as in the 79 Canon is required?

Of Excommunicate Persons.

HAVE you any Excommunicate Persons in your Parish? And whether doth your Minister read Divine Service or Prayers, when any Persons he knew to be Excommunicated was present in the same Church at that time among the Congregation? And whether hath he not caused the Church-wardens, or some other Person, to put them forth, or to ceale from saying any Divine Service during such Excommunicate Persons being thereat?

2. WHETHER hath your Parson, Vicar, or Curate received any Excommunication, Suspension, or Aggravation from his Ordinary or his Substitute? And hath he published the same according to the tenor thereof, the next Lords-day or Holy-day following the receipt.

Of the Church-wardens and Side-men.

WHETHER were your Church-wardens chosen in the Easter-week, as is required in the

Canon? And by the conſent of the Miniſter and Pariſhioners, as is in the 89 Canon required? And did they give up a juſt Account of what Moneys they had received, and how diſburſed? And at their going out of their Office, did deliver up to the Pariſhioners what Moneys and other things belonged to them?

## Of Pariſh Clerks.

HAVE you a Pariſh-Clerk, choſen by the Miniſter, ſufficient for his Reading, writing, and a competent skill in Singing? And doth he receive his accuſtomed wages, as is required in the 91 Canon?

## Of Marriages.

1. IS there any Married in your Pariſh that are within the degrees prohibited by the Laws of God, and expreſſed in a Table, and ſet forth by Authority 1563? And have you the ſaid Table ſet up in your Church, as is required in the 99 Canon?

2. HATH your Miniſter Married any under the Age of One and twenty years, without the conſent of their Parents, Guardians, and Governours, as is required in the 100 Canon?

3. HATH your Miniſter Married any Perſon or Perſons not having firſt publiſhed the Banns, according to the Book of Common Prayer, or obtained Licence from ſuch as have Epiſcopal Authority, or the Vicar-General of the Biſhop, as in the 181 Canon?

Wills

Wills.

WHETHER you have in your Pariſh any Perſon or Perſons who died and have not their Wills proved? Or whether they died Inteſtate (that is to ſay, made no will) as far as you have heard? You ſhall preſent ſuch Executors, or ſuch as have been faulty herein.

Pariſhioners.

ARE there any in your Pariſh that are, or by common Fame or Report are Committers of Adultery, Fornication, or Inceſt; or that are common Drunkards, Swearers, and Blaſphemers of the Holy Name of God, Simoniacal Perſons, Fighters, Brawlers, or Quarrellers? You are to preſent them, as is required in the 106 Canon.

Burials.

HAVE you buried in your Pariſh-Church or Church-yard, any Excommunicated Perſons, or known Recuſants, or ſuch as have been Felons de ſe? And doth your Miniſter bury the Dead according to the Form preſcribed in the Book of Common Prayer, as is required in the 68 Canon?

All theſe Things and Perſons you are conſcionably to preſent upon your Oaths, knowing that the diſcharge of your Duty in your ſeveral Places, is or may be a means to reform ſuch Diſorders and Perſons in your Pariſh, and prevent the Judgdments of God from falling on the ſame: In which, help you God.

*John Feilding* Arch-Deacon.

*Henry Jones* Official.